

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- ~~1. (Original) A subscriber telephone system comprising:  
a first driver circuit coupled to a tip terminal;  
a second driver circuit coupled to a ring terminal;  
a network coupled between the second driver circuit and the ring terminal, the network including a capacitor and a diode limiter coupled in parallel between an output of the second driver circuit and the ring terminal, and structured to minimize the overall ring voltage while maintaining a desired battery mean value.~~
- ~~2. (Original) The subscriber telephone system according to claim 1, wherein said diode limiter comprises a MOS transistor.~~
- ~~3. (Original) The subscriber telephone system according to claim 1, further comprising an external filter coupled to the tip and ring terminals and structured to extract a sinusoidal ringer signal.~~
- ~~4. (Original) A subscriber telephone circuit including a voltage shifting network coupled between an output driver and a ring terminal, the voltage shifting network comprising:  
a diode having a first terminal coupled to the output driver and a second terminal coupled to the ring terminal; and  
a capacitor having a first terminal coupled to the output driver and a second terminal coupled to the ring terminal.~~

5. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 4 further comprising:

a resistance coupled between the second terminal of the diode and a supplied voltage.

6. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 5 wherein the supplied voltage is a negative voltage.

7. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 5 further comprising a second diode coupled between the supplied voltage and the resistance.

8. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 4 wherein the diode is formed by an MOS transistor.

9. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 8 wherein the MOS transistor has a gate electrode coupled to a switch controller.

10. (Currently Amended) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 8 wherein the MOS transistor ~~is~~ is PMOS.

11. (Original) A subscriber telephone circuit including a voltage shifting network, the subscriber telephone circuit comprising:

a first SLIC driver coupled to a ring terminal;

a second SLIC driver coupled to a tip terminal;

a first ringing driver coupled to a first inductive-capacitive network and to the ring terminal; and

a second ringing driver coupled to a second inductive-capacitive network and to the tip terminal.

12. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 11 wherein the first ringing driver is coupled through a first inductor to the ring terminal.

13. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 12 wherein the ring terminal is coupled through a capacitor to a ground reference voltage.

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14. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 11 wherein the first ringing driver and the second ringing driver are structured to only be active during a ringing function, and are controlled by a level driver interface that is structured to receive a driving signal.  
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15. (Original) The subscriber telephone circuit of claim 14 wherein the driving signal is a pulse width modulation signal.

16. (Original) A method of minimizing an overall voltage during a ringing function of a subscriber telephone circuit provided with a mean battery voltage, the method comprising:

- applying a tip signal to a tip terminal;
- applying a ring ringing signal to a first terminal of a network;
- attenuating the ring ringing signal through a capacitive network; and
- applying the attenuated ring ringing signal to a ring terminal.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising:  
coupling the attenuated ring ringing signal through a resistive network to a negative battery voltage.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein attenuating the ring ringing signal through a capacitive network comprises modifying the ring ringing signal through an inductive-capacitive network.

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19. (New) A method of minimizing an overall voltage during a ringing function of a subscriber telephone circuit provided with a mean battery voltage, the method comprising:

At  
applying a tip signal to a tip terminal;  
applying a ring signal to a first terminal of a network;  
attenuating the ring signal through a capacitor;  
applying the attenuated ring signal to a ring terminal; and  
shorting the capacitor when receiving a positive bias at the ring terminal with respect to the tip terminal.

20. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising:  
coupling the attenuated ring signal through a resistive network to a negative battery voltage.